

IN THE ABSTRACT:

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-- IN THE ABSTRACT

An isolated antigen against a *Mycoplasma*, prepared by a method including providing a sample of a *Mycoplasma* and an antibody probe, probing the *Mycoplasma* sample with the antibody probe to detect at least one antigen, and isolating the antigen detected. The antibody probe includes at least one antibody against the *Mycoplasma* that is produced by a method including (a) providing a biological sample taken a short time after an immune animal has been challenged with a *Mycoplasma* or *Mycoplasma* extract taken from the infection site or an area of a lesion or an area close to the infection site or lesion; (b) isolating cells from the biological sample; (c) culturing the cells *in vitro* in a suitable culture medium; and (d) harvesting antibodies produced from the cell.--